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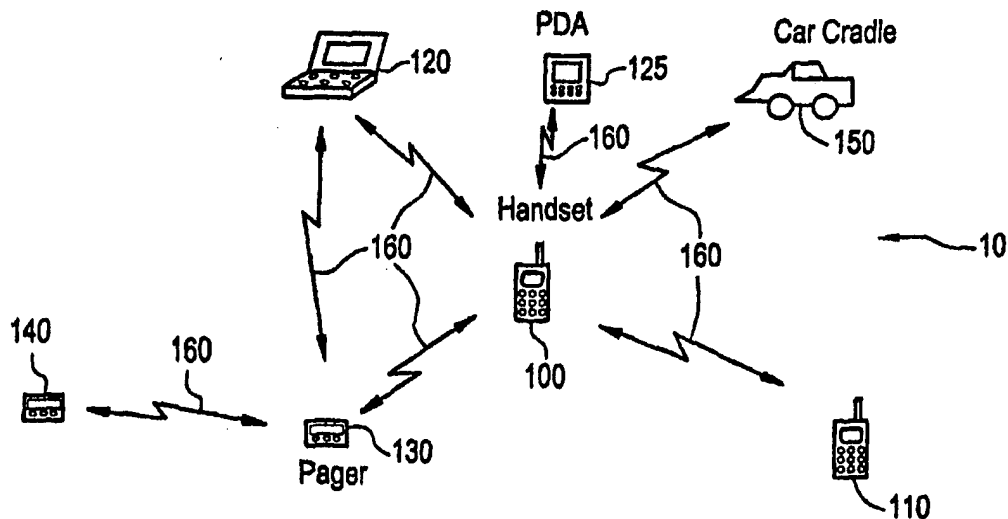
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(54) Title: **OPTIMIZATION OF CHANGE LOG HANDLING**

**(57) Abstract**

An information synchronization method and apparatus stores a change log (240) having an associated change counter at a first database (230), updates the change counter at the first database (230) in response to a database update command from a second database (200), and returns the updated change counter to the second database (200) in response to a processing condition resulting from the database update command at the first database (230). The information synchronization protocol (220) ensures that the second database (200) maintains the most current change counter for use in a subsequent synchronization procedure and in the event that an interruption or error occurs, thereby increasing the efficiency of information synchronization by enabling the second database (200) to process only those changes of the first database (230) occurring after the updated change counter.